

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
)
KAJIYAMA *et al.*)
)
Application Number: to be assigned)
)
Filed to be assigned)
)
For: ADVANCED THERMAL GRADIENT DNA)
CHIP (ATGC), THE SUBSTRATE FOR ATGC,)
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING FOR ATGC,)
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR BIOCHEMICAL)
REACTION, AND STORAGE MEDIUM)

Honorable Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please substitute this continuation application with the replacement paragraphs as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please insert before the first paragraph under **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION** of page 1 of the Disclosure currently on file with the following paragraph:

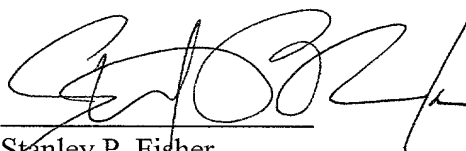
This application is a continuation application of U.S. Application No.
09/527,233 filed on March 16, 2000.

REMARKS

Applicants have incorporated the specification, abstract and drawings as allowed in the above identified application with a new set of claims 1-4 at the end of the specification of record. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added to the application by the present Amendment.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due consideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344

JUAN CARLOS A. MARQUEZ
Registration No. 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive
Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200

January 3, 2002

SPF/JCM/JT